THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Copyright infringement is an offence as per the provisions of the Copyright Act, 1957. The Act has already been amended by the Copyright (Amendment) Act, 1984 to provide for enhanced and stringent punishment for copyright infringement so as to have a deterrent effect. The amended Act makes copyright infringement a cognizable offence.

Abuse of Office by Deputy Commissioner (Personnel) of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan

1419. DR. R. K. PODDAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state what are the specific complaints of abuse of office which recently been reecived by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan against their Deputy Commissioner (Personnel)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): The following four allegations were made against the Deputy Commissioner (Personnel) of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan:—

(a) Admission of ineligible wards of his relatives;

(b) Favouritism in appointment of near relatives;

(c) Sale of 'Escape from Transfers'; and

(d) Usurption of his colleague's designation.

These allegations have been looked into by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and found to be unsubstantiated.

Payment of dues to financial institutions by the Indian Shipping Companies

1420. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Shipping Companies have been allowed to reschedule payment of their dues to financial institutions;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether any other special concesions have been offered to the Indian shipping companies to increase their Cargo traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Government have granted rescheduleement of instalments and interst for defaults of shipping companies upto March, 1983, as detailed in the annexure. (See Appendix cxxxix, Annexure No. 84.)

(c) The following assistance has been extended to Indian shipping with regard to cargo traffic:—

(i) With a view to ensuring greater share of cargo for Indian vessels India has entered into bilateral shipping Agreements which provide for parity in cargo liftings and freight earnings;

(ii) There are standing instructions to Public Sector Undertakings/Government Departments to negotiate as far as possible, C and F exports and FOB imports. These are designed to maximise cargo availability to Indian Lines.

(iii) Share of Indian Shipping Lines in the carriage of Iron Ore exported by MMTC has been brought up through successful negotiations;

(iv) The use of foreign flag vessels in the oil trade has been brought down by aranging acquisition of suitable takers for Indian shipping companies.

(v) with a view to encourage use of Indian vessels it has been decided that:

(a) the freight paid shall not be debited to the fact value of import licence if the ocean freight is paid in non-convertible rupees in India and the goods are carried on Indian vessels and

(b) the exporters will be given replenishment licence on exports in question at the rate of 11 per cent if the

goods are exported on Indian vessels as against the normal rate of 10 percent.

Financial difficulties of Ranchi University

1421. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state-

(a) whether Government are aware of the acute financial difficulties being faced by the Ranchi University so much so that over 10,000 teachers including Readers and Professors working in different Colleges have not been paid their salaries for the past few months; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to assist the University to tion of various Task Forces is attached.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) The Government of Bihar is responsible for the payment of salaries of the teachers in Ranchi University.

Black-marketing in Railway Tickets

1422. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in "The Statesman" of 9th July, 1986 under the caption "And now they beat the Computer";

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have made any investigation as to the modus operandi of these touts and how Railway tickets are available with them when these are not available at the countries; and

(d) if so, what are the steps being taken to prevent blackmarketing in railway tickets?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report alleged that touts are operating in the Railways Computerised Reservation Centre at New Delhi.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. An enquiry revealed that no confirmed ticket in the name of the companion of the reporter had been issued from any of the counters on 8.7.86 as alleged, as the waiting list for the train had started on 28.6.86 itself after which no confirmed ticket can be isued by the Computer.

Rajkot-Ahmedabad Inter-city train

1423. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rajkot-Ahmedabad inter-city train service is scheduled to commence from October next;

(b) if so, what is the estimated time to be taken by the inter-city train to shuttle between Rajkot to Ahmedabad and vice versa;

(c) what is going to be the estimated accommodation in II Class, I Class and A/C, Chair-Cars; and

(d) what is going to be the fare for d fferenet classes for journeys between Rajkot and Ahmedabad?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Approximately 4 hours and 30 minutes.

(c) It is proposed to have 2 first class and 11 second class coaches and 2 second class cum luggage vans on this train.

(d) Fare charged with be according to the normal tariff rates.